

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1746  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001  
CLOSURE OF WELLS OF ONGC AND OIL  
RAJO SINGH

**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether many oil/gas wells of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Oil India Limited have been closed down or their gas is being burnt because of no-demand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total loss of oil and gas being borne by each oil company due to closing down of wells of burning of gas in the air; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to stop this type of losses?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) & (b): As far as ONGC is concerned 17 oil and gas wells in Tamil Nadu and 5 free gas wells in Tripura have been kept closed as the consumers who have been allotted gas are not in a position to receive supplies since their projects have not been completed or there have been fluctuations in demand for gas.

In respect of OIL around 5 to 6 free gas wells in Assam are to be kept closed periodically on account of the same reasons.

(c): There is no loss of gas on account of closing the wells. However, the revenue earnings of ONGC and OIL have been deferred.

(d): In order to improve the utilization of gas the following steps are being taken:-

(i) Allocations on fallback basis are being considered in respect of some of the existing plants which can start consuming the gas earlier than the grass root projects.

(ii) ONGC has been permitted to directly market low pressure gas from isolated wells producing upto 1 lakh cubic metres per day.

(iii) Generally, allocation is being made for higher quantities than the available gas so that even if some of the allocations do not materialize, the gas utilization would not suffer in the long run.